



# Office of Community Services

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program | LIHWAP

## How Federal Aid for High Water Costs Helps Struggling Families

Stats for FY2022

### TEXAS

A State Snapshot

Total funding received: **\$92,398,958**

Program start date: **March 21, 2022**

Months providing benefits in FY22: **6**



### How has LIHWAP impacted households in need in Texas?

Individuals served

**22,233**

Highest LIHWAP crisis benefit amount

**\$63,163**

Highest LIHWAP rate reduction benefit amount

**\$2,400**

Partnerships established

**404**

Of LIHWAP's funding<sup>6</sup> in Texas...

**66.7%**

has prevented disconnections, while

**23.3%**

has restored services

**10.1%**

has reduced current rates

### THE COST OF WATER IN TEXAS

Nationally, water is the fastest growing household utility service. As a result, many Americans in Texas are struggling to pay their water and wastewater bills.

Median water and wastewater rate in 2022

**\$102.90**

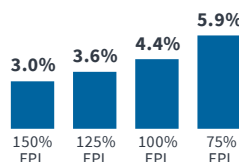
Rate includes water + sewer per month<sup>1</sup>

Income-eligible individuals

**6,747,628**

Total individuals under 150% FPL<sup>2</sup>

Percent of income spent on water/ wastewater by poverty rate<sup>3</sup>



FPL: Federal Poverty Level<sup>4</sup>

### What is LIHWAP?

LIHWAP is the first-ever federal water assistance program to help meet unmet water needs across the country by helping low-income households pay for their water and wastewater bills.

### Who in Texas benefits?

LIHWAP benefits households with the lowest incomes, and who pay a high proportion of income for drinking water or are facing water disconnection. This includes:

Texas households benefited

**8,508**

Households with at least one vulnerable individual<sup>5</sup>

**70.6%**



Help with water bills has been an unmet need for many decades. LIHWAP has been a source of great relief for households struggling to meet their basic household needs.

– Texas LIHWAP Administrator



[www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/lihwap](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/lihwap) | [waterhelp.info](http://waterhelp.info)

<sup>1</sup>Water and sewer data from Duke University Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (2022). Represents large and very large utilities at usage rate of 10,000 gallons/month for inside customers

<sup>2</sup>Calculated from ACS 2021 1-year estimates, individuals with income below 150% poverty level

<sup>3</sup>Poverty rate: US Census Bureau American Community Survey

<sup>4</sup>FPL: US Dept of Health and Human Services

<sup>5</sup>Unduplicated Vulnerable Households with at least one older adult, person with disabilities, child under 5

<sup>6</sup>Out of LIHWAP funding spent on benefits; excludes administrative costs.